



In Support of: *SB 620*

Connecticut must work to develop a strong home and community based network of care by building a seamless community based infrastructure, developing a flexible benefit structure, and providing adequate reimbursement for community based providers. Proposed bill 620 goes a long way in promoting a strategic design for keeping older adults in the community. The Commissioner of the Department of Social Services has the important resource of the Long Term Care Needs Assessment to identify the areas in critical need of State support and with the greatest possible impact on helping to divert elders from our existing institutional bias to Aging in Place.

Aging advocates have spoken to the Commission and the Department on the important role of Aging and Disability Resource Centers designed to reduce fragmentation of services, enhance optimal use of diversion programs and educate the general public on the best methods of utilizing assets to provide long term care. A Statewide commitment to the Aging and Disability Resource Centers or Single Point of Entry can go a long way in making seamless service delivery and Aging in Place a reality.

Successful Aging and Disability Resource Center models include a breaking down the silos between various waiver programs, an integrative uniform application process, access to eligibility determination staff, cooperative Medicaid, Disability and Aging departments and strong communication with municipal decision makers to prioritize infrastructure projects that benefit older adults. The Resource Center must have community resources; nutrition, transportation and homecare to make Aging in Place a reality.

10 Middle Street
Bridgeport CT 06604
203-333-9288 or 800-994-9422
www.swcaa.org